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14 June 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard Lehman

25X1 FROM : [] A/NIO/SSEAAF

SUBJECT : Defense Intelligence Officers

The following is in response to your questions concerning our views on the DIOs:

25X1 A. Support the DIOs Provide to the NIOs: We deal with three DIOs, [] on Southeast Asia, [] on South Asia, 25

25X1 and [] on Sub-Saharan Africa. There is a wide divergence in the support they provide to us. On Southeast Asia the support has been extensive and satisfactory in all regards. On South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, DIOs provide little, if any, direct support. Instead, they have delegated their role to subordinates.

B. Support the DIOs Provide to the Director, DIA: We are not really in a position to answer this question.

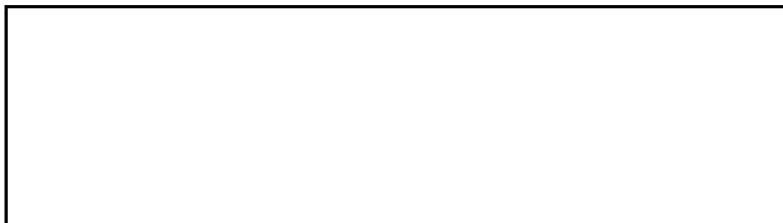
C. Ability of the DIO to "Insure Effective and Coordinated Defense Inputs to National Intelligence": By and large, the DIOs, or their designated subordinates, have performed adequately in providing coordinated Defense inputs. The problem, and it applies to NFIB as well, is that the DIOs are more DIA in nature than they are "Defense". In practice, this means that the Services continue to exercise a considerable degree of independence. The biggest problem concerns the participation and status

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of the Service intelligence organizations in the interagency memorandum context. DIA is the official representative and it is from DIA alone that we normally seek coordination. Nonetheless, the Services often participate and are on occasion at variance with the "official" DIO position. In effect, we have viewed this as an internal DoD bureaucratic problem and leave it to the DIO to arrange for and handle the Service organization problem.

D. Degree to which the DIOs have Assisted the D/DIA and NIOs in "Identifying and Evaluating the Needs of Intelligence Users and Defense Intelligence Products": In general, with the exception of the KIQ strategy reports, we have seen little DIO participation on this subject. As noted above, however, we do not have any clear picture of how the DIOs might assist the D/DIA on this matter.



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